

In FY 2000, two exciting developments affected the Illinois Department of Transportation that will result in an improved transportation system throughout Illinois and enhance the satisfaction of our customers — the citizens of Illinois.

The first is the start of Governor George Ryan's Illinois FIRST program that provides additional billions of dollars to all transportation modes from FY 2000 through FY 2004. The second involves department-wide sweeping changes in its management practices to improve services provided by transportation employees. These developments emphasize our commitment to providing the best, safest transportation system in the nation.

Transportation is a partnership that includes the private sector, the state, the federal government, local governments, and the citizens who use and pay for the system. We work in a dynamic environment, guided by public policy, citizen input, engineering principles and technological changes. We are constantly looking for ways to become more effective and efficient in building, managing or planning one of the most extensively used multi-modal transportation systems.

Our accomplishments in Fiscal Year 2000 are highlighted in this second annual report to the people of Illinois. We fully accomplished the projects in the state highway program; began Illinois FIRST projects, such as the Hillside Bottleneck reconstruction; funded public transportation support facilities and transit vehicles statewide; made progress toward the development of high-speed rail passenger service; helped make record-breaking gains in Amtrak ridership; supported major improvements at 21 airports throughout the state; and maintained a low traffic fatality rate on Illinois highways.

Through technology, good management and privatization, the department serves the public with improved transportation services and facilities. This annual report shows you how we invest the taxpayers' money in the state's transportation infrastructure.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kirk Brown", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kirk Brown  
Secretary  
Illinois Department of Transportation